Central Assistance to States

*347. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Planning Commission have decided to review the Gadgil-Mukherjee formula for allocation of Central Assistance to States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several States are unhappy on the allocation of Central Assistance due to Gadgil-Mukherjee formula; and

(d) if so, the details of representations received in this regard and further action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE) : (a) to (d) The Planning Commission has received proposals from various State Governments to amend the existing Gadgil formula for allocating Normal Central Assistance to State Plans. There is wide divergence in the views amongst the States in this regard. In general, while the advanced States have sought higher weightage for performance, the less advanced States have sought higher weightage for backwardness. This issue was considered in a meeting of the Full Planning Commission held on 27th and 29th June 2001. Since revision in the Formula requires the approval of National Development Council (NDC), it was decided that given the difference of opinion among the State Governments and the sensitivity of this issue, it was necessary to discuss this further and evolve a consensus before alternatives are considered by the NDC.

Ceiling on bonus

*348. SHRI JIBON ROY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that upper ceiling of the guaranteed bonus for the industrial workers has not been changed since last decades;

(b) the details of the upper ceiling stipulated when the Bonus Act was passed with corresponding Consumer Price Index and the current upper ceiling with the corresponding Consumer Price Index; and